

For the FCC to even consider further deregulation is a betrayal of its function as a regulating agency. The air waves are common property, they belong to everyone. The government has given away the air waves to profit-making corporations. In its last wave of deregulation in 1996, it loosened the rules so that a company like Clear Channel can now own over 1200 radio stations, and can homogenize broadcasts so that no one receiving their broadcast gets local news. Six huge corporations now own most of the public's access to information. You are proposing that these companies and others like Clear Channel can now buy into other media so that the public receives even less diversity of opinion in any medium. I strongly protest any such further deregulation and believe the 1995 Telecommunications Act should be revisited for the effects it has had on the public's right to know and receive unbiased, truthful information.